



Meeting Minutes

Payson PCE and Tonto & Cherry Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site Community Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Payson Public Library

328 McLane Road

Payson, Arizona

FINAL MINUTES

Ref: PIOU #06-038

CAB Members Present: Dr. Nel Gusimat, D.C., Roger Hattrup, Robin Morris, Jean Riddell,
Damian Wiseman

CAB Members Absent: John Shoemaker

ADEQ Staff in Attendance: Wendy Flood, Community Involvement Coordinator, Chris
Gamache, Project Manager, Veronica Garcia, Outreach Unit Manager

Members of the Public Present: Robin Interpreter

The following matters were discussed, considered, and decided at the meeting:

1. Welcome and Introductions-

Mrs. Wendy Flood called the meeting to order and control was turned over to Mr. Robin Morris, CAB Co-Chair. Introductions were conducted of attendees as listed in these minutes.

2. Acceptance or Changes to July 26, 2005 meeting minutes –

Dr. Nel moved and Mr. Wiseman seconded; the minutes were approved as written

3. Discussion on CAB letter to the Payson Town Council –

Mrs. Wendy Flood reminded the CAB of a discussion from the last meeting; The Payson WQARF Advisory Board report addressed the issue of the letter.

Mr. Morris stated that information had been requested from ADEQ so to disseminate to the public and write the letter. Historically, reports had been requested and not received. It was voted on by the CAB to write a letter to the Town council. Mr. Morris continued that the reports requested from ADEQ to write the letter were not received, so the letter was not written. Dr. Nel was asked by Mr. Morris to read an e-mail from Samantha Roberts, Unit Manger, in regard to the water reports request.

Mr. Morris entertained a motion again to get the analytical water reports for 1999 through 2004 to the CAB.

Dr. Nel questioned after the last meeting whether it was decided that a letter was not needed. She felt that the letter did not need to be written.

Mrs. Riddle agreed with Dr. Nel and requested feed back from fellow members.

Mr. Wiseman also felt the letter was no longer relevant. However, information requests were still an issue and he felt that the CAB members should not have to pay for them.

Mr. Morris withdrew his motion. Mr. Gamache clarified that from this point forward copies of the reports would be available in the public repository at the Payson Library.

The format had been changed to include the laboratory analytical results. Mr. Gamache showed the size of the laboratory reports and stated that was why a table was presented to the WQARF Advisory Board in response to Mr. Morris' letter requesting the results.

Mr. Gamache stated that he'd be the one to go through the years of reports and that it would take an incredible amount of time. He stated getting the information from the electronic database was much more effective in respect to time. Mr. Gamache offered a compromise to get copies of the results for two or three months. Mr. Gamache also informed the CAB that after discussion with the AG office, any public person who reviewed any files at any state government agency paid \$0.25 per page for copies. Mr. Gamache summarized that if a specific month and year was given he'd be willing to get the information for the CAB. Mr. Morris thanked him for his offer and would get the months in question to Mr. Gamache.

Mrs. Flood verified that 3 out of 4 CAB members did not feel the letter was needed. Dr. Nel agreed and further discussion ensued about addressing the town council on misinformation. Dr. Nel and Mr. Wiseman felt there was a new issue to be addressed later. The letter did not need to be written.

4. Data and Information Request-

Mr. Morris stated that Mr. Gamache's previous discussion and compromise addressed and solved the issue. Mr. Gamache additionally added that if the CAB would like other information provided, to contact him. He would get the information within reason or explain if there was an issue as to why he could not.

5. Discussion and Voting on CAB Co-Chair

Mrs. Flood stated that John Shoemaker had accepted the position of CAB co-chair. He was not present and the CAB decided to postpone the vote until next meeting.

6. June 2005 Sampling Results and Site Update -

Mr. Chris Gamache stated the presentation would cover the last sampling event from June 2005, where in the WQARF reporting process the sites are, the WQARF reporting process outline and upcoming work and future plans.

The June event was a smaller event where 6 groundwater monitoring wells and 2 domestic wells were sampled. The groundwater monitoring wells that were sampled were the sentential wells installed to monitor the movement of MTBE through the site and into the system. Since there was currently no detection of MTBE, the wells only

showed PCE around the treatment system. The Kachina Trailer park was a concern, so the well was sampled on a monthly basis.

Mr. Gamache showed a site map of the entire site and showcased the 3 sentinel wells that were sampled in this event. Wells 1A and 2A were non-detect for all analytes, and Well 3A detected 18 parts per billion (ppb) of PCE for the upper alluvial unit. For the lower unit, Wells 1A and 2A were non-detect and Well 3A had 13 ppb of PCE.

At the Tonto and Cherry site, 1 domestic well was tested and showed levels of PCE at 3.4 ppb, TCE at .61 ppb and cis 1, 2-DCE was detected at 3.4 ppb. Within this site there was a natural break down of PCE which was why more products showed up at sampling events. The Kachina Trailer Park well for this event had 21 ppb and continued to increase.

Mr. Gamache explained the general reporting process of all WQARF sites. Specially for Payson PCE and Tonto and Cherry, these sites were in two different parts of the process. For the Payson PCE site, the Remedial Investigation (RI) report was completed in June 2002, the Feasibility Report was completed in May 2003 and the Proposed Remedial Action plan was completed in October 2003. All of these were located in the public repository at the Payson Library. Currently, the Record of Decision needs to be written, which is the end of the WQARF process.

For Tonto and Cherry the draft RI report was completed in 2002. It went for public comment in 2002 but the finalized RI report had not been completed. Mr. Gamache stated the report would be finalized and the Remedial Objectives would be written. The Feasibility Study Report would soon be started.

The semiannual groundwater sampling event was just completed at the beginning of September. The results would be presented at the next CAB meeting. The rehabilitation of some of the Town of Payson (TOP) production wells was continuing and would be completed in the middle of October. The biggest concern was loss of capture to the west and northwest due to two wells being offline because of lowered pumping rates and overheating. The two wells were EX-1 and EX-2, and they were pointed out to the CAB on the map. The groundwater moved slowly and the contaminated water would be pulled back once the wells were back online.

Mr. Morris asked when the wells lost capture. Mr. Gamache stated it was around the end of July and beginning of August. Mr. Morris also asked about the sentinel wells 1A, 2A and 3A, and if they were production wells that pump into the Payson PCE plant. Mr. Gamache answered that they were not; they were monitoring wells only. Mr. Morris asked if there were any sentinel wells that provided water to the Payson PCE plant. Mr. Gamache said no, there were no sentinel wells that were connected to the system. Mr. Morris was confused from statements made in 1999 about MTBE detection in wells and impact of MTBE to the Payson PCE plant. Mr. Gamache clarified that the TOP wells and the sentinel wells were next to each other. So, if the sentinel wells have a detection, the TOP would also show a detect. Mr. Morris wanted clarification as to why the plant was shutdown. Mr. Gamache stated it was to investigate the MTBE that was found, because the Town was surprised at the detection. Mr. Morris clarified that sentinel wells were monitoring wells, not production wells that pump into the plant. Mr. Gamache stated that was correct.

Mr. Morris also clarified that the Tonto and Cherry site was still being investigated for remediation and asked how many TOP wells were being impacted by the site. Mr. Gamache stated there were no TOP wells impacted by the Tonto and Cherry site. Mr. Gamache clarified that when other wells in the area were investigated, there was no clear-cut evidence that the WQARF site contributed to the PCE found in those wells.

Mr. Morris wanted clarification on detects in the McKamey street well. Mr. Gamache referenced a table that was presented. It showed that the last sampling on August 17, 2005 showed 0.7 ppb PCE. There was a pipe connected to the system that went to the McKamey well area. It was not connected to the well, but the pipe was there in case it was needed. The PCE had to show detection of 5 ppb for that to occur.

Ms. Robin Interpreter asked about groundwater levels. Mr. Gamache stated that the levels had come up anywhere between 5 and 10 feet.

Mr. Morris also asked about the Skinner well and the issue of plume migration after the well was down; also, the increased production and deepening of the McKamey well. Mr. Gamache clarified that they were two completely different wells and separated by a large space. For the McKamey well, it was Mr. Gamache understanding that ADEQ did advise the Town of Payson not to deepen the well, but it was after the fact and there was no written record of that advisement. It could not be determined if the deepening of the well did effect the contamination from the site. It was planned for during the RI report in case there was a problem. For the Skinner well, the town took the well offline because of low production and to rehabilitate the well. The other wells in the area were also not producing and so the contamination was not being pulled to the system, and it flowed towards the Kachina Park.

Mr. Morris asked if the pumping was lower, did it affect the cleanup length? Mr. Gamache stated that there was a range of water amount that needed to flow through the treatment system for it to be effective. The amount coming through the system currently was in that range: 100 gallons per minute.

Mr. Morris asked if the same lab was still being used for sample analysis and what the detection level was. Mr. Gamache stated he would find out if the lab had changed. The laboratory detection levels had changed over the years as new technology became available. The detection levels had been lowered over the years.

7. Web Site Address and Links-

Mrs. Wendy Flood accessed and navigated the ADEQ web site for CAB members; showing how to get to Superfund and Payson information. To access the web page, the address was www.azdeq.gov. Then click on Waste Programs, Superfund, Site Information and Maps, Statewide and finally Payson PCE. Mrs. Flood also showed how to access the minutes by going to Superfund, then Meeting and Notices.

Mr. Morris stated 7 or 8 clicks was unacceptable. There should be one page that had all the information. Discussion and further navigation was performed. Mrs. Flood urged CAB members to please call if there were any questions concerning the web page.

Ms. Interpreter suggested putting WQARF next to Superfund on the web page to help ease the difficulty of finding information.

Mr. Morris stated again that he felt 7 or 8 clicks to access the web page was unacceptable and that a motion would be made to change things around. Mr. Gamache stated that a vote could be done and a request submitted, but it was up to the IT department what was changed. Mr. Morris gave suggestions on how to change the web page. It was suggested to the CAB to make those suggestions directly from the Contact Us page on the web page.

Mr. Morris asked about the Payson WQARF Report access on the web site. Mrs. Flood stated the disk was in the library with the Payson WQARF Board report for public viewing.

Mr. Morris wanted to have, links to critical information and meetings and notices on the web page for Payson. Mr. Gamache asked that the CAB use the Contact Us portion of the web page to make the recommendation, and it would be documented in the minutes. Mr. Morris asked that Wendy Flood contact her boss and notify her that the Payson PCE group felt that seven clicks to get to information on the web page was unacceptable.

Mr. Wiseman stated that information coming from the CAB carried more weight than from staff. Mr. Gamache stated that he would also contact the web master.

Mrs. Riddle commented that a request like that from Mr. Morris was taking the staff out of their normal job duties by asking them to do something they had no right or ability to do. If there was a request, she suggested they contact them (ADEQ) directly and not go through the staff.

8. CAB Presentation

Mrs. Flood presented information on CAB rules, roles and responsibilities. The statutes governing CAB's were presented, reviewed and discussed. Open Meeting Law information was presented and discussed. A recent E-mail option from the Attorney General Office was presented to CAB members and discussed. CAB member responsibilities and roles were reviewed, ADEQ's role in regards to aspects of CABs and CAB meetings, and Co-Chair responsibilities were also discussed. A history of the Payson PCE/Tonto and Cherry CAB was presented.

Mrs. Riddle inquired how the site was discovered as a potential WQARF site. Mr. Gamache responded that the Town of Payson discovered PCE in the well during their required analysis of the water system and contacted ADEQ, and the preliminary phase began.

Ms. Interpreter asked why there was no city or county representative at the CAB meeting. Mr. Gamache stated that because ADEQ is in charge of the Site, the city was not required to attend the meetings. The town ran the plant because a certified operator was needed. There was no requirement for their attendance. Mr. Gamache stated he did gather and share information with the Town before presenting it to the CAB.

9. Call to the Public

None

10. Future Meeting Plans/Agenda Topics

Ms. Interpreter asked for the water level information in a table at the next meeting or to present it within the presentation.

The CAB decided to have the next meeting on Tuesday, December 6th, 2005, at the library from 6 to 8 pm.

Agenda topics would include voting of CAB co-chairs, site update on Payson and Tonto and Cherry Sites for sampling events occurring in September.

11. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.